

ABSTRACT

An intravascular device for venting an inflatable chamber and methods for using the device are disclosed. The intravascular device generally includes three components, namely a catheter or cannula, an inflatable member, and a selective degassing element.

- 5 The inflatable member is typically a balloon. The catheter or cannula is typically hollow with a first lumen extending between an inflation port and the interior of the inflatable member and a second lumen extending between the interior of the inflatable member and an exhaust port. The selective degassing element is typically positioned between the inflatable member and the exhaust port and occupies the entire cross-sectional area of the
- 10 second lumen. When in a closed position, the selective element prevents the passage of liquid from the interior of the inflatable member, through the exhaust port. When in an open position, the selective element permits gas entrained within the inflatable member to be expelled from the device, via the exhaust port.